Government are given below:—

NW.1 — Allahabad-Haldia stretch (1620 kms) of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hoogly river system (1986).

NW.2 — Sadiya-Dhubri stretch (891 kms) of Brahmputra (1988).

NW.3 — Kollam-Kottapuram stretch (168 kms) of the West Coast Canal alongwith Champakara Canal (14 kms.) and Udyogmandal Canal (23 kms) (February, 1993).

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to declare the following three waterways as National Waterways:—

(i) Cherla-Rajahmundry stretch (208 Kms.) along with its navigable delta canals.

(ii) Mandovi (41 Kms.), Zuari (64 Kms.) rivers and Cumbarjua canal (17 Kms.) in Goa.

(iii) The International Steamer Route (191 Kms.) between Sagar and Bangladesh border in Sunderbans.

(d) and (e) For their better utilisation, the three National Waterways are being further developed by the Inland Waterways Authority of India. The developmental schemes undertaken by the IWAI include provision of infrastructural facilities such as fairway with adequate depth, terminals, night navigational facilities.

(f) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the utilization of National Waterways are as under:—

(i) Grant of loan interest subsidy scheme:

(ii) Handing over two vessels to Goa Barge Entrepreneurs' Association in National Waterway No. 1 without hire charges for one year, under the IWT promotion scheme;

(iii) Compensation @ 10 paise per tonne kilometer until infrastructural facilities are fully developed in National Waterways No. 1 and 2.

To accelerate the developmental programmes, the IWAI has also formulated a scheme for private particiapation.

Citizen Band Radio Facility to Schools and Rural areas under MPLADS

*146. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Citizen Band Radio facility can now be given under MPLADS to schools, rural areas etc.;

(b) if so, what is the exact procedure by which Licences can be obtained by such schools;

(c) in what manner can the procedure be simplified so that the school can get quick be efit under MPLADS; and

(d) how this scheme can be made more popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Licence can be obtained by submitting an application on the prescribed proforma to the Ministry of Communications and on payment of requisite fees.

(c) The procedure is already simplified for rural areas by minimising inter-agency clearances for grant of such licences.

(d) Effective demonstrations in schools, colleges, village panchayats etc. and

availability of Citizen Band sets at low cost can make the use of Citizen Band Radio under MPLADS more popular.

Development of Road Projects in Orissa with foreign aid programmes

*147. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has submitted a list of important road projects before the Central Government for their development with foreign aid;

(b) whether Government have examined those proposals;

(c) if so, the action initiated thereon so far;

(d) the present position with regard to obtaining foreign aid and assistance for those projects; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposals have been received for improvement of State Roads in Orissa.

(c) to (e) World Bank has agreed to provide Project Preparation Facility (PPF) Loan for 802 kms length of roads in different parts of the State. However, the actual scope of the projects and the amount of loan will be finalised on the basis of the study of PPF. In addition, proposals for improvement of two State road projects, namely (i) Panikolli-Rajamundra Road; and (ii) Bhubaneswar-Puri road, have been shortlisted for posing for loan assistance to Overseen Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan.

Nuclear Tests by China and France

*148. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China and France have lately conducted Nuclear tests; and

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto in the context of world peace, violation of the test ban treaty and reversal of the progress towards realisation of a nuclear weapon free world, an objective spelt out by India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. During 1995, China has conducted two underground tests and France has conducted four underground tests.

(b) In a statement issued on 15 September 1995, Government has expressed dismay over the recent nuclear tests and stated that they represent a serious setback to the ongoing negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and undermine its successful conclusion. Government has also, inter alia, expressed the hope that all countries will negotiate in good faith for a universal, comprehensive, non-discriminatory and effective CTBT as an important step towards nuclear disarmament and, meanwhile, refrain from actions contrary to the objectives of the CTBT.

Foreign investment in Food Processing Sector

*149. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign investment approved in Food Processing Sector so far;

(b) the State-wise and Project-wise